

What Does An Arlington Firefighter Do ??










The mission of an Arlington Firefighter is to champion the 360° of public services available to the guests and citizens of Arlington. At the heart of these services lives the traditional Fire Departments role in Public Safety.

Through Public Education, Fire Prevention, Emergency Medical Services and Fire Suppression, the Fire Department is the backbone of Community Services. As the needs of our community change, so do the services provided by Arlington Firefighters.

The Arlington Fire Department responded to over 45,000 calls for service in 2008. Approximately 70% of our responses were to help with emergency medical needs. These calls include motor vehicle accidents, heart attacks, strokes and other medical/trauma related incidents. Whatever the need, the Arlington Fire Department responds.

When not responding to emergency calls, firefighters are involved in a variety of other activities. Below is a list of some of the many programs and activities firefighters perform on a daily basis:

-  Emergency Preparedness (large scale natural and man-made disasters)
-  Community Education (1,500 programs provided in 2008)
-  Public Service Work (smoke detector installation, neighborhood clean-ups, etc...)
-  Building Inspections (Pre-Incident plans for all schools, large structures, and high hazard facilities)
-  Personal Development (over 20,000 hours of required training in Fire, EMS, Rescue, and Hazardous Materials subject matter)
-  Station and Apparatus maintenance
-  Required physical training (to insure we have a fit and healthy team to respond to the rigors and high stress of emergency incidents)

Firefighters provide more community focused services than ever before. As public threats change, so do the many response disciplines provided by the Fire Department.

Today's Arlington Fire Department also provides specialized Hazardous Material response teams, terrorism preparedness and mitigation capability, a Bomb Squad with explosive detection canines, swift water, with dive ability, and a vast array of technical rescue services.

Arlington Firefighters work a 24/48 hour work schedule: with three 24 hour shifts (A,B,C) the city is always covered. This means that a Firefighter will report for duty at 7a.m.. and will remain on duty until relieved the next morning at 7a.m. This work schedule is a way of life, a commitment from a Firefighter to protect and serve our community.